Amendment of Warehousing Act, 1962

*158. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received for amending the Warehousing Act, 1962, to enable the State Government to enter into a joint venture not only with the Central Warehousing Corporation but also with other private people to bring in strategic strength of capital and technology; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir. However, a request has been received from Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh for amending the Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962 to enable State Warehousing Corporations to enter into joint ventures with the prior approval of the State Government.

(b) The Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962 has been recently amended on 29.8.2001. The suggestion of the Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh has been noted.

Status of Domestic Workers

*159. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to frame a law to safeguard rights of the domestic workers and to accord them the status of workmen;

(b) if so, by when a legislation in the matter is likely to be brought before Parliament; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (c) Based on the recommendation of the National Commission on Labour, there is a proposal to frame an umbrella legislation for the welfare of workers in the unorganized sector.